READ 7370

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6/12/2012

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Table of Contents

* Overview
* Because the Form of Words Matter –A,B,C
* Language Awareness
* Ruining a Poem – A, B, C
* Varieties of English

Overview

The following pages contain experimental writing to convey linguistics in different tones and views to practical language. Language is experimented with through the use of poetry, descriptions, a targeted audience, and variations in the culture found in language. The following writing can be useful to open a discussion about dialects, figurative language, and literal meaning found in text.

I chose to participant in several options that required poetry or free verse. In addition to poetry, I wrote descriptively, figuratively, and for a specific audience. I found the poetry easier to compose because it has fewer constraints than descriptive writing. Poetry usually flows easily for me, especially when using rhyme. Poetry gives the writer freedom to choose length, and it is also more forgiving grammatically.

These activities prompted me to think about language barriers that are seen among English speaking people. The words of language that are used in an East Tennessee culture wouldn’t be considered clear or understandable as somewhere living on the bayou in Louisiana. There are many “genres” in the English language that can be barriers if we are not careful to accept the differences found in language. I also considered the possibility that Standard English may have a place in society but shouldn’t take the place of the native tongues we’ve grown to appreciate.

Option 1

**Because the Form of Words Matter**

1. People Magazine Description

People magazine is a written form of news. It mostly focuses on people that are considered famous or wealthy. The stories and photographs tell stories that common people find interesting like new family additions, new homes purchased, or marriage. It is not a reliable source of information because is based on opinions. The magazine features people on the cover that have the most recent life changing events in their lives. The magazines are known for using pictures that have been touched-up or enhanced to make for a better picture. The audience targets young adult readers.

1. Poetry Piece

People Magazine

O People Magazine

with all your realities and lies

Your glossy, touched up pictures

make us stop and sigh.

You make us wish for things

that we will never have

we read your front cover

even though it’s bad.

O People Magazine

I only have one wish

that I could cross you off

but you’re not on my list.

1. Reflect Key Differences between Prose and Poetry

The pieces focus on the publication of People Magazine. The description piece emphasizes the purpose of the media, the intended audience, and what you might find within the pages of the magazine. This piece also explains some criteria for being featured in the articles inside, while also giving an understanding of who is chosen for the cover.

The poetry piece is written in three stanzas. It also rhymes within the second and fourth line. The rhyming lines appeal to the reader because it helps maintain a flow to the stanzas. This piece only focuses on the cover of the magazine and its appeal to the person who is waiting in line at the check-out counter. The last stanza focuses on the struggle that person has to walk away from the magazine without purchasing it. The line that states, “I wish I could cross you off, but you’re not on my list,” refers to the grocery list that the shopper is trying to stick to, and not to make unnecessary purchases.

Option #2

If language was a web then I would be the spider. Being a language arts teacher, I feel like I spin a web for my students. It is my job to create a masterpiece where I can “trap” them into learning the standards that I am expected to teach. I am also the spider because I feel like language and reading are my passion in education. I am fortunate enough to have the privilege to teach the subject that I am most passionate about. I spin an intricate web of a love for language through poetry, song, dance, gaming, novel studies, anticipation guides, problem based learning, and writing for meaning. I look back at my master piece and feel pride. When the students move on and I get another group, I start again diligently to begin a new masterpiece.

Option # 3

Ruining a Poem

A.

Water – Appalachian Style

It’s coo to drink when your sweatin like a pig

You can use it in your warsher or to wet your whistle

You can get it down at the crick or even in your zink

Ya’ll will get a mess of it when it comes a good en

If my garden don’t get ere then I’ll go to squallin

B.

Water - Standard English

It is cold to drink when you are perspiring.

You can use it to clean your laundry or to quench your thirst.

You can find it in the creek or just turn on your sink.

It may flood if it becomes a flash flood.

If there is a drought my garden will dry up and I will cry.

C.

The two different version of the description of water has two different impacts. The Appalachian version is more interesting to me because it seems to have a personality. When reading about water, the topic water seems to become a character within the writing. The character seems to possess personality. The language also lends itself to interpretation. In other words the reader decides the role that water plays in the life of the writer. The reader can imagine how wonderful water would be if there was a pig sweating. This type of writing allows for visualization.

The second version is clear, scientific, and could be found in informational text. The use of visualization isn’t as necessary in the prior writing. A pro to this type of writing is that there is no imagery being used thus the reader doesn’t have to rely on schema to understand the text. A con to this type of writing is that the writing doesn’t spark the interest of the reader or lead the reader to make generalization within the text.

Option #4

1. King James Version –Thou shalt not commit adultery.
2. Appalachian Version – Shant be catched shackin up cause yurn daddy don’t want ere

shot gun weddin.

Politically Correct Version – You may not have sexual relations with that woman.

1. In all three versions the meaning is solid and can be translated in my dialects to Standard English and the meaning would still be the same. The King James Version uses outdated language such as thou and adultery. If you are not familiar with the use of language in the Bible, this may sound very foreign to you. The Appalachian version appeals to me because I can hear my grandmother say this aloud and use the same language. The message is clear, again, if you were raised in this part of the country. You do not have to speak with the dialect to understand. I understood because I listened to my grandmother use these words in context. Finally, the politically correct version, is well stated and crisp, clean, and really doesn’t address the meaning of each word. The strategy behind the politically correct version is to not commit to a specific definition so that the voters make their own assumptions.